

RIVERSIDE RIPPLES

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R. I. President

Divyang Parikh
President

Amit Adhiya
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Ashis Roy
Dist. Governor

Mihir Shukla
Secretary

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Co-Editor

SERVICE Above Self

ROTARY SURAT RIVERSIDE

*We meet every Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. at Dr. Bhacca Rotary Hall, Jeevanbharti School.
All our meets are dinner meets.*

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Cover Story



LAST WEEK AT OUR CLUB

Even though being declared a no-meet, everybody had to be summoned last Tuesday to discuss over the impasse that emerged after the denial of Rtn. Stanley Martin to hold the post of President for the coming Rotary Year. The long declared PE was not even able to attend regular meets recently and his uncertainty to grace the Presidential chair next year was causing concern amongst members. A club assembly had to be rushed on the 7th March after he officially notified Prez. Divyang about his inability to serve, citing professional reasons.

Suddenly the club found itself stranded without an incoming president. The crux of the meeting revolved around the quandary everyone was put into, but the gist of the discussion was that everybody decided to take things positively given the fact that Rtn. Stanley, who is involved as a master with a Dyeing & Printing Mill, had informed us well in advance for us to opt for another candidate.

And friends, at this juncture, we witnessed one of the most remarkable rescuing acts of all. The suave and charming Rtn. Rajesh Patel, who's always

under played himself, rose to the occasion and came forward to take up the challenge. Hon. Secretary Mihir proposed his name and Rtn. Jugal seconded his candidature amidst a loud round of applause. Rajesh requested Rtn. Kuldeep to assist him in his year as secretary and the ophthalmologist who's recently been blessed with a baby girl, willingly obliged.

This predicament served as an eye opener to everyone and we decided to select the incoming presidents for the next two years as well to avoid similar sticky situations in the future. Hence the names of Rtn. Sanjay Pandya and Rtn. Kuldeep Desai were proposed for the R.Y. 2007-08 and 2008-09 and were approved by the whole house without any objections.

Samar Zaveri was kind enough to have sponsored the (ice cream) dessert being his wedding anniversary. Charter President Rtn. Jayesh Dhamanwala in his VoT thanked all for remaining present in large numbers for the assembly and once again appreciated Rtn. Rajesh Patel's spontaneity to help bring the club back to its feet.

THEY SAID IT

On Rotary ethics

"In order for us to improve the world in which we live, each Rotarian must show high ethical standards in private life and professional life. Rotary does not force members to act with integrity; these qualities must be present in the heart and mind of each Rotarian."

*-Paul L. Santens, RI director,
1995-97*

ON ROTARY IN RUSSIA

"Russians have long had a tradition of helping each other, but this has happened on a personal level... Only now are people realizing that they can organize efforts to make a difference. That's wher Rotary comes in."

*-Stefan Gelineo, past president
Rotary club of Moscow.*

On Rotary and peace

"I'm convinced that a just and lasting peace will never be achieved with the military weapons of war; but rather, it will only be built using Rotary's tools of peace - friendship, goodwill, tolerance, helpful humanitarian service, and care for those who live in poverty, hunger and hopelessness."

*-Clifford L. Dochterman, 1992-
93 RI President.*

ROTARY GOALS FOR ROTARY YEAR 2006-07



Rotary International's incoming president, William B. Boyd, will emphasize four familiar topics during the 200607 Rotary year.

Boyd told incoming district governors at the International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA, on 17 February, his focus will be on water management, literacy, health and hunger, and the family of Rotary.

Every year at the assembly, Rotary's incoming president unveils emphases for the next Rotary year, which starts on 1 July. The current emphases under RI President Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar are literacy, water, health and hunger concerns, and public image. Past RI presidents Jonathan B. Majiyagbe and Glenn E. Estess Sr. emphasized some of these issues, too. Over the years, clubs have carried out service projects related to these areas. They've helped tap wells, filter water, distribute dictionaries, educate teachers, equip schools, donate food, and provide medical treatment.

After Boyd announced his emphases, Stenhammar elaborated on them. Both see a link between literacy and water management. Stenhammar said the nongovernmental organization WaterAid found that in Tanzania, school attendance increased 12 percent when water was 15 minutes away rather than an hour. A World Bank study showed that school attendance in Bangladesh rose 15 percent when water-hauling time was reduced.

Stenhammar said 20 percent of the world's population does not have access to safe drinking water, and he encouraged Rotarians to look at water pollution's causes. "It's often the industries that are changing what Mother Nature has given us, thus creating polluted water," he said. "But also at home we can all think of this: My wife, Monica, has taught me never to put anything in our kitchen sink that we do not want in our kitchen garden. I see in many countries, television ads about chemicals to use to keep weeds out of our lawns or just to make them greener. These chemicals often contain poison, which after having fulfilled its mission, sinks down into the subsoil water our future water supply."

As for literacy, that's a subject close to Boyd's heart, partly because he grew up in a family that owned a bookstore. Literacy, Boyd said, helps people escape poverty, empowers women, and enables communities to care for their water resources and address issues related to health and hunger.

With respect to the family of Rotary, Boyd said this includes Rotaractors, Interactors, Inner Wheel, alumni of The Rotary Foundation, Youth Exchange students, and family members of Rotarians. Boyd encouraged Rotarians to make it easier for members who are busy, young professionals with families to take part in clubs' activities. A formal dinner, for example, can mean time away from the children, a significant expense for the meal, and money for child care. Instead, he suggested a weekend barbecue, a picnic, or a service project that can involve the whole family.

RTN. DR. VITRAG SHAH IN MEDIA

The local daily Gujaratmitra in its city edition "City Pulse" on 10th March Friday featured our very own Riversider Dr. Vitrag Shah in an article on the **SMILE TRAIN PROJECT**. This project strives to operate patients with inborn errors of cleft palette / cleft lip Free Of Cost. The American body Smile Train Institution which identified Mission Hospital as one of its 50 associates in India has been giving full support to the project since last year by taking care of all expenses including the post-surgery medicines and follow-up costs.

Dr. Vitrag even shared some highlights about this programme with your editor. According to him any patient from 3 months to 40 years old with the said inborn defect can be operated upon successfully. The imperfection can be treated in 1 to 4 surgeries within a span of 18 years. In the 9 months of its existence, Dr. Vitrag Shah - who's also the project director along with Dr. Dhansukh Shah - has successfully operated 75 cases.

Being a consultant plastic surgeon, in his interview he also explained about re-plant micro surgeries whereby it is possible to re-plant our body limbs like arm / leg / fingers when mutated in an accident if they are rushed to a hospital within stipulated time. Good going Vitrag, you definitely have made us proud.

THE ULTIMATE TEST

John Blanchard stood up from the bench, straightened his Army uniform, and studied the crowd of people making their way through Grand Central Station. He was looking for the girl whose heart he knew, but whose face he didn't, the girl with the rose. His interest in her had begun thirteen months before in a Florida library. Taking a book off the shelf he found himself intrigued, not with the words of the book, but with the notes penciled in the margin. The soft handwriting reflected a thoughtful soul and insightful mind. In the front of the book, he discovered the previous owner's name, Miss Hollis Maynell.

With time and effort he located her address. She lived in New York City. He wrote her a letter introducing himself and inviting her to correspond. The next day he was shipped over seas for service in World War II. During the next year and one month the two grew to know each other through the mail. Each letter was a seed falling on a fertile heart. A romance was budding. Blanchard requested a photograph, but she refused. She felt that if he really cared, it wouldn't matter what she looked like. When the day finally came for him to return from Europe, they scheduled their first meeting -7:00 PM at the Grand Central Station in New York. You'll recognize me, she wrote, by the red rose I'll be wearing on my lapel. So at 7:00 he was in the station looking for a girl whose heart he loved, but whose face he'd never seen. Here's what happened from the young man's point of view: A young woman was coming toward me, her figure long and slim. Her blonde hair lay back in curls from her delicate ears; her eyes were blue as flowers. Her lips and chin had a gentle firmness, and in her pale green suit she was like springtime come alive. I started toward her, entirely forgetting to notice that she was not wearing a rose. As I moved, a small, provocative smile curved her lips. "Going my way, sailor?" she murmured. Almost uncontrollably, I made one step closer to her, and then I saw Hollis Maynell. She was standing almost directly behind the girl.

A woman well past 40, she had graying hair tucked under a worn hat. She was more than plump, her thick-ankled feet thrust into low-heeled shoes. The girl in the green suit was walking quickly away. I felt as though I was split in two, so keen was my desire to follow her, and yet so deep was my longing for the woman whose spirit had truly companioned me and upheld my own. And there she stood. Her pale plump face was gentle and sensible, her gray eyes had a warm and kindly twinkle. I didn't hesitate. My fingers gripped the small worn blue leather copy of the book that was to identify me to her. This would not be love, but it would be something precious, something perhaps even better than love, a friendship for which I had been and must ever be grateful. I squared my shoulders and saluted and held out the book to the woman, even though while I spoke I felt choked by the bitterness of my disappointment. "I'm Lieutenant John Blanchard, you must be Miss Maynell. I'm so glad you could meet me; may I take you to dinner?" The woman's face broadened in a tolerant smile. "I don't know what this is about, son," she answered, "but the young lady in the green suit who just went by, she begged me to wear this rose on my coat. And she said if you were to ask me to dinner, I should tell you that she is waiting for you in the big restaurant across the street. She said it was some kind of test!"

It's not difficult to understand and admire Miss Maynell's wisdom. The true nature of a heart is seen in its response to the unattractive.

"TELL ME WHOM YOU LOVE," HOUSSAYE WROTE, "AND I WILL TELL YOU WHO YOU ARE."

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

It takes strength to be firm... It takes courage to be gentle.
It takes strength to stand guard... It takes courage to let down your guard.
It takes strength to conquer... It takes courage to surrender.
It takes strength to be certain... It takes courage to have doubt.
It takes strength to fit in... It takes courage to stand out.
It takes strength to feel a friend's pain... It takes courage to feel your own pain.
It takes strength to hide your own pains... It takes courage to show them.
It takes strength to endure abuse... It takes courage to stop it.
It takes strength to stand alone... It takes courage to lean on another.
It takes strength to love... It takes courage to be loved.
It takes strength to survive... It takes courage to live.



A new sign in the Bank Lobby reads: "Please note that this Bank is installing new Drive-through teller machines enabling customers to withdraw cash without leaving their vehicles. Customers using this new facility are requested to use the procedures outlined below when accessing their accounts. After months of careful research, MALE & FEMALE procedures have been developed. Please follow the appropriate steps for your gender."

MALE PROCEDURE:

1. Drive up to the cash machine.
2. Put down your car window.
3. Insert card into machine and enter PIN.
4. Enter amount of cash required and withdraw.
5. Retrieve card, cash and receipt.
6. Put window up.
7. Drive off.

FEMALE PROCEDURE:

1. Drive up to cash machine.
2. Reverse and back up the required amount to align car window with the machine.
3. Set parking brake, put the window down.
4. Find handbag, remove all contents on to passenger seat to locate card.
5. Tell person on cell phone you will call

- them back and hang up.
6. Attempt to insert card into machine.
7. Open car door to allow easier access to machine due to its excessive distance from the car.
8. Insert card.
9. Reinsert card the right way.
10. Dig through handbag to find diary with your PIN written on the inside back page.
11. Enter PIN.
12. Press cancel and reenter correct PIN.
13. Enter amount of cash required.
14. Check makeup in rear view mirror.
15. Retrieve cash and receipt.
16. Empty handbag again to locate wallet and place cash inside.
17. Write debit amount in check register and place receipt in back of checkbook.
18. Recheck makeup.
19. Drive forward 2 feet.
20. Retrieve card.
22. Re-empty hand bag, locate card holder, and place card into the slot provided.
23. Give dirty look to irate male driver waiting behind you.
24. Restart stalled engine and pull off.
25. Redial person on cell phone.
26. Drive for 2 to 3 miles.
27. Release Parking Brake.

DISTRICT NEWS

The nomination of Rtn. Dr. Surendrasingh Parmar of R.C. of Sarigam as the District Governor 2008-09 has now been challenged by-

1. Hitesh Jariwala of R.C. Surat
2. Rtn. Dhake of R.C. of Baroda

The challenge will stand as valid upon fulfilling of certain conditions by the 25th March '06



FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS



NO MEETING ON 14TH UNION BUDGET-ITS IMPLICATIONS

Our own member Rtn. Pallav Desai who has years of experience and interaction with the trade and industry shall enlighten us about the changes in the direct tax laws in the recently presented union budget. Besides practicing as a charter accountant, he has also passed the examination to qualify for practicing in other countries including USA. He is a visiting faculty in the prestigious Luthra Institute of Management teaching the subject of Financial Management. Kindly gather in large number to give vent to your doubts regarding your financial planning.

- Date : 21st March, Tuesday
- Time : 8:30 p.m. (No meeting on 14th)
- Venue : Dr. Bhacca Rotary Hall, Jeevabharti



- 16-03 Mihir Shukla 93769 14468
- 16-03 Mehul Patel 98241 97436